

AMENDMENT(S) TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12 line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- In a further preferred embodiment, the catalyst layer has ~~hydrophobing~~ hydrophobic and/or proton-conducting material additives, for example powder of aromatic polyether ether ketone, PTFE powder, NAFION® or electrolytes.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 21 line 16, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--To produce a PEM fuel cell element, immediately following the braiding of the hose a catalyst layer, preferably including ~~hydrophobing~~ hydrophobic and/or proton-conducting material additives, is applied to the braid, preferably in the form of a paste via a continuous nozzle. The application of this layer eliminates the unevenness of the braids, so that a smooth surface is produced, which forms an excellent basis of the application of the ion-conducting layer which is subsequently applied. According to the invention, it is also possible for a compensation layer to be applied to the braid in order to eliminate the unevenness. To save catalyst material, this compensating layer may contain charcoal, in particular activated charcoal, graphite, in particular graphite powder, soot or mixtures thereof, preferably together with binders, for example polymers. Then, the catalyst layer is applied to this compensation layer. The application of the layer of an ion-conducting material takes place as explained above, with layer thickness of from 10 to 150 µm being preferred. After any drying which may be required, a further catalyst layer is applied, as described above. A further compensation layer, as described above, may preferably be applied to this catalyst layer. Then, an outer braid of an electron-conducting material comprising bundles and/or filaments is braided around this composite. The braids used have a braid density of 50 to 97%, preferably 50 to 90%, comprise individual strands of 50 to 1,000, preferably 100 to 1,000 fibrils, it being possible for each fibril to have a diameter of between 7 and 20 µm, preferably 7 and 12 µm, and to comprise carbon fibers and/or metal wires. If appropriate, it is also possible to use individual strands which do not comprise fibrils, but rather comprise solid or hollow fibers. The braid angle is between 30° and 60°.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 22 line 22, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--The SOFC fuel cell elements are produced as explained above for the PEM fuel cell elements, except that no ~~hydrophobing~~ hydrophobic additives are used, and a sintering operation under standard conditions takes place after the drying.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 27 line 25, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Figure 5 shows a perspective side view of the module shown in Figure 4, which is composed of a multiplicity of tubular composites 1 and a frame 52. Composites 1 are arranged in a matrix 54 within frame 52.--